

**ABSTRACT**

5 In a high data rate communication system, a method and apparatus for  
selectively reducing the power of signals transmitted by an access terminal.  
The access terminal generates an access metric based on throughput or data rate  
control (DRC) information. The access terminal then compares the access  
metric to an access metric threshold and gates or reduces its transmit power  
based on the results of the comparison. The access terminal uses algorithms to  
10 determine the access metric and access metric threshold that reduce transmit  
power during periods when the access terminal would not be selected to  
receive data from an access network according to an access network selection  
algorithm.

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